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Borough of
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Bunhebed
Launceston
Cornwall

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the year
1961



Health Area Office,
LAUNCESTON, Cornwall.

W. PATERSON, M.B., Ch.B. D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.



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Health Area Office,
LAUNCESTON,
Cornwall

WILLIAM PATERSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

BOROUGH OF DUNHEVED otherwise LAUNCESTON

Members of the Public Health Committee - 1961

The Worshipful the Mayor of Launceston -
Councillor S.G.Adams
Alderman C.H.ROBINS (Chairman)
Alderman R.L.HICKS (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor W.F.HENDER
Councillor Mrs.K.A.KEAST
Councillor E.A.HORE
Councillor W.R.BENNETT
Councillor Mrs.J.C.HICKS

- - - - -

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority:

Medical Officer of Health:

W.PATERSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

also holds appointments of

Medical Officer of Health: Launceston Rural District Council
Bude/Stratton Urban District Council
Stratton Rural District Council
Camelford Rural District Council

Assistant County Medical Officer, Area No. 6 - Cornwall County Council
School Medical Officer - Cornwall County Council

Public Health Inspector :

G.E.GIFFORD, M.A.P.H.I.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	2182
Population	4420
No. of separate dwellings occupied	1474
Rateable Value, 1961	£68,757
Product of ld. Rate	£273.13.8d.

LIVE BIRTHS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 estimated population</u>
Legitimate	59	26	33	14.479
Illegitimate	5	3	2	

STILLBIRTHS - - -

DEATHS (all causes)

82 41 41 18.55

Puerperal and post abortive
sepsis NIL
Other Puerperal causes NIL

INFANT MORTALITY

(Deaths under 1 year, per 1,000 live births)

1 1 - 15.62

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	3	8	11
Deaths from Measles (all ages)		N I L	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)		N I L	
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)		N I L	

Health Area Office,
Launceston.

To: The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Dunheved, otherwise Launceston.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1961.

Deaths during the year numbered nine more than in 1960. Births showed an increase of one compared with the previous year, but the deficit of births in relation to deaths continued. There were no stillbirths, but one infant death was recorded. Once again, heart disease, vascular lesions of the nervous system, and cancer, in that order, were at the head of the list of causes of death.

The estimated mid-year population for 1961, a census year, shows a fall of 250. In the inter-censal period, deaths in the Borough outnumbered births by 217. There have been other factors which have had an adverse effect on population numbers, all of which amount to an excess of emigration over immigration. A decline of 5% in the population of such a small borough is a serious matter. A reversal of the position is so subject to social, economic and biological influences as to appear to be unlikely if present trends in our mode of life continue.

An epidemic of measles, which affected the whole county, occurred during the year. Apart from this, the incidence of notifiable infectious disease was low. No cases of diphtheria and no cases of poliomyelitis occurred. Vaccination against the latter disease continued, with the introduction of a fourth booster injection for children of primary school age.

In the sanitary circumstances of the Borough, progress continued with slum clearance. Work continued on the second stage of the reconstruction of St. Leonards Sewage Works. A further increase in the number of animals slaughtered meant that meat inspection still called for a great deal of work on the part of your Public Health Inspector, much of it out of normal working hours and at week-ends. For the rest, the record is one of unobtrusive attention to routine duties, the tick of the clock that goes unnoticed as long as it continues.

I must express my thanks to Mr. G. E. Gifford, the Council's Public Health Inspector, for his valuable co-operation in all aspects of our work together and in the preparation of this report. The Council's other departments have continued their willing help. I am grateful to the General Medical Practitioners for their co-operation.

It is a pleasure to acknowledge, once again, the continued interest and encouragement of the members of the Council and, in particular; of the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM PATERSON

Medical Officer of Health

AREA (in acres) 2,182. This ancient Borough is the natural centre of the agricultural community in North Cornwall and adjoining parts of Devon. It has important markets and some light industry.

POPULATION - The Registrar General has estimated the population for the mid-year 1961 to be 4,420, a decrease of 250 over the previous year. The "natural" increase in the population is the excess of births over deaths. In 1961 there were 18 fewer births than deaths.

DEATHS - The total number of deaths assigned to the Borough for the year was 82 compared with 73 in 1960. The crude death rate, based on the mid-year population was 18.55 compared with 15.63 in the previous year. The following table has been compiled for comparison with previous years :

<u>Years</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Recorded Rate</u>
1957	72	35	37	15.45
1958	68	28	40	14.56
1959	72	35	37	15.38
1960	73	38	35	15.63
1961	82	41	41	18.55

In order to compare the mortality in the District with the mortality for England and Wales it is necessary to make a correction to allow for the difference in age and sex distribution of the two populations. This is done by applying to the crude death rate of the District an "Area comparability factor" which has been estimated by the Registrar General as 0.61 for this Borough.

The standardised Death Rate, therefore, is 11.31 which may be compared with that of 12.0 (provisional) for England and Wales.

BIRTHS - The number of live births assigned to this Borough was 64 compared with 63 in 1960. The rate per thousand of the population was 14.479. When the Registrar General's Area Comparability Factor for births (1.06) is applied to this figure, the Standardised Birth Rate of 15.347 for this Borough compares with 17.4 (provisional) for England and Wales.

STILLBIRTHS - The number of stillbirths during 1961 was nil.

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS - There were five illegitimate births assigned to the Borough during the year, compared with two in 1960.

MATERNAL MORTALITY - No case of death during pregnancy has been recorded.

INFANT MORTALITY - The death of one infant in the first year of life was recorded during the year. The cause of death was as follows :-

<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Cause of Death</u>
M	1 month	Fulminating septicaemia Conjunctivitis

NOTE:

Vital Statistics. It is important that too much weight should not be attached to small variations in these rates from one year to the other, particularly where relatively small populations are involved - attention should rather be paid to the trend of these rates over a period of years.

MORTALITY TABLE

Classified in accordance with 36 headings based on the Abbreviated List of the International Statistical Classifications of Disease, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1955.

<u>Cause of Death</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	2	2
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	-	1	1
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1	1
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	3	4	7
15. Leukaemia, aleukemia	-	-	-
16. Diabetes	1	1	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	8	11	19
18. Coronary disease, angina	7	5	12
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1	1	2
20. Other heart disease	5	6	11
21. Other circulatory disease	3	3	6
22. Influenza	-	1	1
23. Pneumonia	5	-	5
24. Bronchitis	2	1	3
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	-	1	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	2	6
33. Motor vehicle accidents	-	-	-
34. All other accidents	-	1	1
35. Suicide	2	-	2
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
	41	41	82

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

General Medical Services

General medical services under Part IV of the National Health Service Act, 1946, are provided by medical practitioners resident in the district and in adjoining districts, all of whom undertake maternity medical services.

County Council Services

- I Health Department : The County Council is the local health authority for the purposes of Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946 and provides the following services in the district :-
- (a) Midwifery and Home Nursing. Nurse-midwives are provided to attend general nursing and midwifery cases in the home.
 - (b) Health Visiting. The nurse midwives act also as health visitors and, with special training in the case of the mother and young child, are available to give advice on health matters in the home or at the clinic. They act also as school nurses.
 - (c) Child Welfare Centre. A Child Welfare Clinic is held at the Health Clinic, Launceston, three times each month.
 - (d) Dental Clinic. Priority dental treatment for expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children is available at the Dental Clinic at the Health Clinic, Launceston.
 - (e) Vaccination and Immunisation. Facilities for vaccination against smallpox and immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus are provided at the Child Welfare Clinic or by the supply of materials to the family doctor. Regular sessions are held for poliomyelitis vaccination.
 - (f) Home Help Service. Home helps are employed to provide domestic help for households in certain circumstances, a charge being made for this service according to the means of the person concerned.
 - (g) Ambulance Service. A service of ambulances for the conveyance of sick, accident and emergency cases is provided. For sitting cases utilecon sitting case vehicles are used. When appropriate, some such cases are carried by the Hospital Car Service, a voluntary organisation. Day-to-day administration of the service is carried out from Ambulance Control, Bodmin.

- (h) Prevention of Illness, Care and After-care. A full-time tuberculosis health visitor is provided for the care and after-care of tuberculous persons. District nurses are available to assist in the treatment of such persons when required by the Chest Physician or family doctor. Certain special investigations are carried out in other types of illness by district health visitors while health education is carried out by the County's medical and nursing staff.
- (j) Mental Health. The County Council has certain responsibilities in connection with the ascertainment of mental ill-health and mental deficiency, with the provision of statutory supervision, etc. for mental defectives living in the community, and with the provision of after-care following treatment for mental illness. The Mental Welfare Officer for the district works from the Health Area Office, Launceston

II Education Department. As local education authority, the County Council is responsible for the School Health Service, which provides the following :

Periodic Medical Inspection of pupils
Cleanliness Surveys of pupils
Dental Inspection and treatment of pupils
Ascertainment of handicapped pupils in need of special education
Treatment Clinic, Health Clinic, Launceston :-
Dental Clinic by appointment
Child Guidance, by arrangement at Plymouth Child Guidance Clinic

III Welfare Department. This service is concerned with the welfare of the aged, and with that of various categories of handicapped persons. It is concerned also with the provision of temporary accommodation in certain circumstances for persons in urgent need thereof. The Welfare Officer for the district works from the Health Area Office, Launceston

Hospital Services.

The South Western Regional Hospital Board is the hospital authority for the area.

Launceston Hospital provides in-patient and out-patient facilities in the district. Patients are referred also to hospitals in Plymouth and elsewhere. Cases of infectious disease are admitted to the Scott Isolation Hospital, Plymouth, and tuberculosis patients to Didworthy and Tehidy Sanatoria. Mental hospital accommodation is provided by St. Lawrence's Hospital and Laninval House, Bodmin and Moorfields Hospital, Ivybridge, Devon.

An Orthopaedic Clinic is held weekly at the Health Clinic, Launceston, and a Physiotherapy Clinic at Tavistock Hospital. The Chest Clinic is held at Launceston Hospital.

An Ophthalmic Clinic for school and pre-school children is held periodically at the Launceston Health Clinic. A specialist Ante-natal clinic is held at the Launceston Health Clinic each week.

Laboratory Facilities.

These are provided by the Public Health Laboratory, Plymouth, to which specimens for bacteriological examination are sent.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

WATER SUPPLIES

Responsibility for the water supply to the Borough passed wholly to the East Cornwall Water Board on 1st April, 1961. Some assistance has been given in the form of labour during scraping operations, but otherwise the organisation has functioned quite independently.

The supply, which is acid in character, emanates from an upland surface source at Bray Down on Bodmin Moor. This is an isolated area which is almost uninhabited. At the head works at Bray Down, which were constructed in 1897, water is extracted from two separate sources. Firstly, the open moorland stream, part of which may be diverted into the head works and through the filter beds, and secondly a series of four springs which have been piped to a common point, and enter the main at a junction below the head works, consequently the water from the springs is unfiltered. The water has a pH varying from 5 to 5.5. This causes considerable corrosion and deposit in the trunk main and scraping by water ferret is carried out at intervals. The water is soft, having a total hardness equivalent to calcium carbonate of 20 p.p.m. and is, therefore, very suitable for washing and cooking.

There is more than sufficient water on the gathering grounds at Bray Down to serve the needs of the population in Launceston. During the year 1961, whilst minor restrictions were placed on the use of garden hoses, etc., it was found unnecessary to curtail the supply for essential purposes.

Sixteen samples of water were taken from the distribution system by the local authority throughout the year and in every case coliform organisms were reported to be absent. Two samples were also taken by the local authority before 1st April from the untreated intake at the reservoir and in both cases coliform organisms were reported to be absent. Reports received from the East Cornwall Water Board indicate that two samples were taken from the distribution system after 1st April and both samples were free from coliform organisms. Copies of reports on fifteen samples of water taken by the East Cornwall Water Board at the head works at Bray Down show that in all but one sample coliform organisms were present, the maximum number having been reported in July. As the water before distribution is treated with chlorine, ammonia and silicate of soda, and chlorination is calculated at a maximum constant and does not vary with flow, adequate protection is ensured. This is borne out by the absence of coliform organisms from samples taken from the distribution system.

As the moorland water is liable to have a plumbo-solvent action, the local byelaws prohibit the use of lead in service or distribution pipes.

The daily water consumption varies between 190,000 and 242,000 gallons. No chemical samples have been taken during the year.

Out of a total of 1,500 dwellings with a population of 4,420 persons, 1,489 dwellings and 4,387 persons are supplied with water from public water mains. No standpipes are used in the Borough.

A sample of water from a disused well, which it was hoped to bring into use to augment the piped water supply, was reported as containing 900 coliform organisms per 100 mil and quite unfit for drinking.

SWIMMING BATHS

The Swimming Bath at the Coronation Park is the open air type, containing approximately 100,000 gallons of water and is filled from the Borough supply in the early part of the year. The bath is equipped with an automatic chlorination dosing plant, and is further treated by a circulating filter, sulphate of alumina being added as a coagulant. Five monthly samples were taken during the bathing period and all were reported as being free from coliform organisms.

SEWERAGE

Launceston is largely served by the separate or dual system of sewerage, that is to say, rain or surface water drainage is kept separate from soil and waste drainage, and the two are conveyed by separate sewers to separate outfalls, surface water to the rivers and soil water to the disposal works. At present, 160 dwellings are not connected to the main sewerage system, as the very hilly nature of the area has made sewerage a major problem, and these 160 dwellings are almost entirely served by septic tanks. Investigations, begun in 1960, are being continued on the main foul sewerage system in an effort to eliminate the entry of surface water which is causing surcharging of these sewers.

Scarne Sewage Works, which was built during the war by the Army Authorities, was reconstructed during 1959 and came into use early in 1960. A deterioration in the quality of the effluent was noted in samples taken during 1961. Of five samples taken one only reached the required standard. Investigations were carried out and are continuing, but it is thought that trade effluents being received into this sewage works are responsible for the deteriorating condition. Work on the second stage of the reconstruction of St. Leonard's Sewage Works continued throughout the year, but satisfactory progress was not maintained by the Contractor in the closing months of the year. Investigation and sampling of the slaughterhouse waste which the reconstructed works will be called upon to deal with were continued during the year.

DISINFECTION

Current and terminal disinfection by means of gaseous and liquid disinfectants is carried out when infectious disease is notified.

DISINFESTATION

Disinfestation of premises is carried out when required. A policy of prevention of infestation by the cluster fly rather than elimination after the infestation has occurred was followed during 1960. It had been found in previous years that the cluster fly returns to the same house year after year and breeds in thousands in the roof space during the summer months. These roof spaces were, therefore, treated with a very small quantity of residual fumigant before summer commenced and at monthly intervals during the height of summer. The result during 1961 was that no house previously infested had any trouble whatever. One very heavy infestation of an external water gravity tank was dealt with during the early part of the year. Several heavy infestations by ants of hospital kitchens were dealt with during the year. Complete disinfestation of one house was carried out for flea infestation.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Bi-weekly collections are made of household refuse and weekly collections made of refuse and salvage from trade premises. Thirty two tons, one hundredweight, three quarters of wastepaper were sold during the year, realising £203.11.1d.

RODENT CONTROL

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Type of Property

	Local Authority	All Dwellings	Business Premises	Agricultural	Total
Total No. of properties in the Borough	9	1465	574	35	2083
Inspection on complaint	5	10	10	7	32
Survey under the Act	3	57	39	7	106
Otherwise (e.g. when visited for some other purposes)	-	-	-	-	-
Total Inspections inclu- ding re-inspections	72	67	169	14	322
Properties infested:					
Major Rat Infestations	2	6	-	-	8
Minor Rat Infestations	3	3	5	2	13
Major Mouse Infestations	-	1	2	-	3
Minor Mouse Infestations	3	6	1	-	10
Total No. of Infested Properties	8	16	8	2	34
No. of Block Control Schemes carried out	-	2	-	1	3

Poisons used: Warfarin 16 lbs. 4 oz.
Arsenic 8 oz.
Zinc Phosphide 2 lbs. 2 oz.

HOUSING

1.	Estimated population	...	...	...	...	...	4420
2.	(a) Total number of permanent houses at 31st December, 1961	...	...	...	...	...	1500
	(b) Total number of permanent houses owned by local authority at 31st December, 1961	...	...	...	...	...	287
3.	(a) New houses erected -						
	(i) by local authority	...	...	...	...	...	19
	(ii) by private enterprise	...	...	...	...	...	12
	(b) Number of applicants on housing list at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	...	144
4.	Number of houses specially provided for, and occupied by, people of pensionable age -						
	(a) Receiving contribution from County Council for Welfare Services	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
	(b) Other houses	...	...	...	...	...	15
5.	Houses demolished -						
	(a) in clearance areas -						
	(i) Houses unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	36
	(ii) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	4
	(iii) Houses on land acquired under Section 4.3 (2) Housing Act, 1957	...	...	...	...	...	14
	(b) not in clearance areas -						
	(i) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 16 or Section 17 (1) Housing Act, 1957	...	...	...	...	...	1
	(ii) Local authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
	(iii) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
	(iv) Unfit houses included in unfitness orders	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

6. Unfit houses closed -

(a) Under Section 16 (4), 17(1) and 35(1), Housing Act, 1957	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b) Under Section 17 (3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957	...	...	...	...	Nil
(c) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957	...	...	...	...	1

7. Unfit houses made fit and houses in which
defects were remedied -

		<u>By Owner</u>	<u>By Local Authority</u>
(a) after informal action by local authority	...	8	-
(b) after formal notice under -			
(i) Public Health Acts	...	-	-
(ii) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957	...	-	-
(c) under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957	...	-	-

8. Unfit houses in temporary use (Housing
Act, 1957) -

(a) Retained for temporary accommodation -			
(i) under Section 48	...	...	Nil
(ii) under Section 17 (2)	...	...	Nil
(iii) under Section 46	...	...	Nil
(b) Licensed for temporary occupation under Section 34 or 53	...	...	Nil

9. Purchase of houses by agreement -

Houses in clearance areas other than those included in confirmed clearance orders or compulsory purchase orders, purchased during the year	4
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10. Housing Acts 1949 - 1959

Improvement grants -

(a) Discretionary -

Number of applications received - dwellings	Nil
Number of applications approved - dwellings	...	...	...	Nil
Total approved expenditure	...	...	...	Nil
Total amount of grants made	...	...	...	Nil

(b) Standard -

Number of applications received - dwellings	...	...	...	4
Number of applications approved - dwellings	...	...	...	4
Total approved expenditure	...	...	...	£470 (Max. grant permitted)
Total amount of grants made	...	...	...	£190 (2 of approved grants not completed during 1961)

Note - 13 grants paid during 1961, totalling £1,520, but 11 of these were in respect of applications received in 1960.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(i) Classified Number of Food Premises in the Area

<u>Type of Premises</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Visits</u>	<u>Defects Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
Butchers	13	42	3	3
Small Goods Factories	2	25	-	-
Bakehouses	1	4	-	-
Bakers' Shops	2	5	-	-
Cafes and Hotels	11	57	2	2
Dairies	5	25	-	-
Egg Packing Stations	1	2	-	-
Fish and Chip Shops	1	3	-	-
Greengrocers	6	8	-	-
Grocers	18	39	-	-
Poulterers	3	12	-	-
Slaughterhouses	2	537	-	-
School Meals Kitchens	4	9	1	1
Hospital Kitchens	2	4	-	-
Fresh Fish Shops	1	5	-	-

(ii) Classified Number of Food Premises Registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 or under Local Acts, and the number of Dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949 to 1959.

Premises Registered for Storage and Sale of Ice Cream	25
Premises Registered for the sale of Fish and Chips	1
Premises Registered for Sausage Manufacturing, etc.	7
Premises Registered as Dairies	5

(iii) Inspection of Registered Food Premises

The following inspections of registered food premises were carried out:-

<u>Premises</u>	<u>Number of Inspections</u>
Fish and Chip Shops	3
Sausage Making Establishments, etc.	25
Ice Cream Premises	48
Dairies	25

Two informal notices were served for minor contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations.

(iv) Educational Activities

Posters and Leaflets supplied by the Central Office of Information were issued to establishments from time to time and advice was given wherever possible.

(v) Condemned Food

Unsound or diseased meat is sent to a processing plant at Davidstow where it is sterilised and manufactured into fertiliser and other products. Condemned canned goods are dealt with by incineration at the Council's Refuse Tip. The Meat (Staining and Sterilisation) Regulations, 1960, require all butchers' meat and imported meat which is unfit for human consumption to be sterilised, and all knacker meat to be stained and sterilised before entering the chain of distribution.

(vi) Special Examination of Large Food Consignments

No large consignment of food has necessitated special examination or large scale condemnation.

(vii) Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations 1947 - 1952

No ice cream is produced in the Borough of Launceston. Forty four samples of ice cream, all of the hot mix type, were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year. Thirty-five samples were classified as Provisional Grade One, four in Provisional Grade Two, one in Provisional Grade Three and four in Provisional Grade Four. It is desirable that 80% of samples should be classified in Grades One and Two, not more than 20% in Grade Three and none should fall into Grade Four. All but one of the four samples in Grade Four were from a producer who in June and July had technical difficulties in production, but these were soon rectified.

(viii) Food Hygiene Regulations 1955 - 1956

Frequent inspections of all food establishments in the Borough were carried out during the year.

(ix) Milk and Cream

There are five registered Dairies in the Borough. Two of these retail milk and the remaining three are registered in order that they may sell loose cream.

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1960

The registration of distributors of milk is now carried out by the County Council. This simplified administrative procedure. The Borough of Launceston is now a designated area, that is to say, only tuberculin tested, pasteurised or sterilised milk may now be sold.

The following samples of milk were taken during the year :-

Tuberculin Tested

Passed Methylene
Blue Test

10

Failed Methylene
Blue Test

-

Passed Biological Test
(i.e. for T.B.)

1

Failed Biological Test

-

Pasteurised

Twenty-three samples of Pasteurised Milk all passed the Methylene Blue and Phosphatase tests.

(x) Unsound Food

Thirty-seven visits were paid in order to condemn unsound foodstuffs.

(xi) Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection

There was an increase of 6,875 in the number of animals slaughtered in 1961, indicating a rise of 8.2% over the 1960 figure and representing a total kill of 90,721 made up as follows :-

Bovines	4971	increased by	254 or 5.36%
Calves	5745	decreased by	549 or 9.4%
Sheep	65331	increased by	15199 or 30.3%
Pigs	14674	decreased by	8029 or 35.38%

<u>90721</u>	<u>increased by</u>	<u>6875</u>
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Cysticercus Bovis

There were four cases of infestation by Cysticercus Bovis detected during 1961, as against six in 1960. This parasite, the developmental stage of the human tapeworm, was found in three steers and one heifer. This gives an incidence of 0.09%, representing a decrease of 0.03% over the 1960 figure of 0.12%.

Affected carcasses are totally condemned if the condition is generalised. Otherwise they are treated by three weeks refrigeration at a temperature not exceeding 20 degrees Fahrenheit. In all cases detected during the year, the lesion was in the head or in the heart, and no cysts were found in the carcasses. The organ or part affected is always condemned.

The carcasses of five animals were sent to Launceston from other areas for refrigeration following the finding in them of localised Cysticercosis Bovis. Careful supervision was maintained to ensure that the required detention period was observed.

Tuberculosis

The success of the Tuberculosis (Cornwall and West Devon) Eradication Area Order, 1959, in reducing bovine tuberculosis can only be appreciated when it is realised that in 1958, there were 473 cases of bovine tuberculosis detected in the Borough. In 1961, only 14 cases of bovine tuberculosis were detected, which means that the disease has been virtually eradicated from cattle. In this connection, the routine procedure now is to notify the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture of cases of bovine tuberculosis detected during meat inspection, giving particulars of their place of origin. The Ministry then carry out tuberculin testing of all animals on the affected farm and arrange for the immediate slaughter of any reactors. This course of action was followed in 9 of the 14 cases reported, the remaining 5 being reacting cattle sent for slaughter by the Ministry.

The eradication scheme has not yet been directed to tuberculosis in pigs and, even though the incidence was reduced from 2.06% in 1960 to 1.64% in 1961, this still means that 238 pigs were detected on slaughter as being affected with tuberculosis.

Slaughtering Licences

Twenty-nine licences to slaughter animals were granted during the year.

Diseases of Animals Acts

No diseases notifiable under the Diseases of Animals Act occurred during the year.

For details of animals inspected and condemned see Table IV

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS 1937 to 1959

Classified List of Registered Factories at 31.12.61.

<u>Nature of Business</u>	<u>Power</u>	<u>Non-power</u>	<u>Building Operations</u> <u>Electrical Stations</u> <u>Institutions, etc.</u>
Agricultural Implement Repairs	3	-	
Boot Making	1	-	
Bread and Confectionary	1	-	
Brush Making	1	-	
Cabinet Making	1	-	
Dresses and Millinery	-	2	
Egg Grading and Packing	1	-	
Electrical and Radio Repairs	2	-	
Gas Holder	1	-	
Hide Salting and Dressing	-	1	
Joinery	6	1	
Laundry	2	-	
Letter Press Printing	2	-	
Monumental Masons	1	-	
Motor Body Painting	1	-	
Motor Body Builders	1	-	
Motor Vehicle Repairs	12	-	
Photographer	1	-	
Provender	1	-	
Poultry Slaughterhouses	3	-	
Radio Repairs	1	-	
Rope Splicing	-	1	
Sawmills	1	-	
Seed Dressing	1	-	
Sausage Manufacture	3	-	
Slaughterhouse	1	-	
Television Repairs	1	1	
Upholstery	1	-	
Watch and Clock Repairs	2	-	
Wool Grading	1	-	
Electrical Station			1
Building Operations			6
<hr/>			
	53	6	7
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Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937 are attached as an appendix to this report in accordance with circular 1/60 of the Ministry of Health.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER
DISEASE.

The infectious diseases which are statutorily notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health are the following :- Smallpox, cholera, diphtheria, membranous croup, erysipelas, scarlet fever, typhus fever, typhoid fever, paratyphoid fever, relapsing fever, plague, poliomyelitis, tuberculosis, malaria, dysentery, puerperal pyrexia, ophthalmia neonatorum, acute primary pneumonia, acute influenzal pneumonia, whooping cough, measles, acute encephalitis, meningococcal infection, anthrax and food poisoning.

The monthly incidence of infectious disease is shown in Table III.

Smallpox. No case was notified during the year, in the course of which 52 primary vaccinations and 3 revaccinations were carried out.

Diphtheria. No case of diphtheria was notified during the year.

Seventy-five children received a complete course of immunisation against diphtheria during the year, the triple antigen against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus being used in almost all cases.

Measles. An outbreak of measles occurred during the year, part of an epidemic involving the whole county. 105 cases were notified, the peak occurring in the month of July. As far as is known, the infection was of a mild character.

Whooping Cough. Nine children were notified as suffering from this disease.

Poliomyelitis. No case of this infection was notified during the year.

Vaccination against poliomyelitis continued, 243 persons receiving a course of two injections. Since the beginning of the scheme in 1956 a total of 1410 persons in the Borough had received the primary course of vaccination and, of these, 1165 had also had their third injection.

During the year, a fourth booster injection was introduced for children in the age-group 5 - 12 years. The majority of these children had received this injection before the beginning of the summer holidays. A shortage of vaccine which occurred later in the year led to a temporary discontinuation of these fourth injections, the available vaccine being reserved for the completion of courses of vaccination already started.

Food Poisoning. No cases were notified during the year.

Tuberculosis.

	<u>Males</u>		<u>Females</u>	
	<u>Pul.</u>	<u>Non.Pul.</u>	<u>Pul.</u>	<u>Non.Pul.</u>
Cases on Register 31.12.60	13	6	18	3
No. of cases notified during year	1	-	-	-
Cases restored	-	-	-	-
Inward Transfers	-	-	-	-
Cases Removed	1	1	2	-
<hr/>				
Total on Register 31.12.61	13	5	16	3
<hr/>				

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, in connection with persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which deals with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

The Regional Hospital Board is responsible for treatment of Tuberculosis patients and the County Council for the prevention of spread of the disease and after-care of the patient.

Out-patients and contacts are seen by the Chest Physician (Dr. Mellor) at the Chest Clinic at Launceston Hospital. The County Council Tuberculosis Health Visitor attends the Clinic, follows up the patients in their homes, traces contacts and sources of infection and thus acting as a most valuable and essential "liaison officer" between the curative and preventive services, bridges a most alarming administrative gap. All susceptible contacts of known cases in the Borough are offered B.C.G. vaccination and the majority avail themselves of this method of protection.

The County Council's scheme for B.C.G. vaccination of susceptible school leavers was continued during the year, again with an excellent response.

OTHER DISEASES

Cancer of the Lung. During 1961, one female death from cancer of the lung was recorded out of a total of 11 cancer deaths. Since 1949, there have been 58 male and 83 female deaths from all forms of cancer. Of these, 8 male and 5 female deaths have been due to cancer of the lung.

The recent report of the Royal College of Physicians on smoking and lung cancer has amply confirmed the previous findings on the subject. The publicity given to this report on its publication produced a considerable impact, and there can now be few members of the adult public who can be ignorant of the connection between smoking and cancer of the lung.

TABLE I

TUBERCULOSIS

Age and Sex Distribution of Cases and Deaths 1961

<u>Age Groups</u>	<u>NEW CASES</u>				<u>DEATHS</u>			
	<u>Pul.</u>		<u>Other</u>		<u>Pul.</u>		<u>Other</u>	
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
0 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE II

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>POPULATION (Estimated)</u>	<u>BIRTHS</u>		<u>DEATHS</u>			
		<u>Number</u>	<u>Crude Rate</u>	<u>Under 1 year</u>		<u>All ages</u>	
				<u>Number</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Rate</u>
1957	4660	52	11.37	2	37.73	72	15.45
1958	4670	55	11.77	-	-	63	14.56
1959	4680	57	12.18	3	52.63	72	15.38
1960	4670	63	13.49	1	15.87	73	15.63
1961	4420	64	14.479	1	15.62	82	18.55

TABLE III

Monthly Incidence of Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)

	<u>Jan.</u>	<u>Feb.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Apr.</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>Aug.</u>	<u>Sept.</u>	<u>Oct.</u>	<u>Nov.</u>	<u>Dec.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Measles	-	-	6	16	1	10	43	16	-	1	7	5	105
Whooping Cough	3	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
	3	-	9	19	1	10	44	16	-	1	7	5	115

TABLE IV

MEAT INSPECTION

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
No. killed	1933	3038	5745	65331	14674	-
No. inspected	1740	2844	5103	60107	13300	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	28	13	69	14	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	106	243	34	123	133	-
% of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticercosis	6.1	9.53	0.92	0.3195	1.105	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	2	2	-	-	3	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	3	7	-	-	238	-
% of the no. inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.287	0.316	-	-	1.812	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	3	1	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	3	1	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE V

NUISANCES AND DEFECTS REMEDIED DURING THE YEAR

	<u>INFORMAL NOTICES SERVED</u>	<u>COMPLIED WITH</u>
Defective Drainage	- 4	4
Defective Roofs	- 3	3
General Defects	- 5	5
Insanitary Conditions	- 4	4
Obstructed Drainage	-10	10
Food Hygiene Regulations	- 6	6
Shops Act	- 1	1
Overflowing Cesspools	- 2	2

Total Number of Complaints Received 60

Total Number of Visits Paid 2,031

APPENDIX

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration
of the Factories Act, 1937.

Part 1 of the Act

- 1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	8	-	-
(ii) Factories not inclu- ded in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Author- ity	53	89	11	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outwork- ers' premises)	7	16	-	-
Total	66	113	11	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found
(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases")

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred- To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (Section 1)	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding (Section 2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temper- ature (Section 3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (Section 4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (Section 6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (Section 7)					
(a) Insufficient	3	2	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work	2	2	-	2	-
Total	11	10	-	4	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork

(Sections 110 and 111)

	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwhole -some premises	Notices served	Prosecu- tions
Wearing } Making apparel } etc.	1	-	-	-	-	-

